Medicine Hat The Gas City

Alberta's TOP 35 EMPLOYERS 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

City of Medicine Hat - 580 First Street S.E. - Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 8E8 - (403) 502-8071

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ELM STREET SCHOOL, CITY HOST 'BOX FLATS' PROJECT

Medicine Hat – Medicine Hat youth had a chance to explor e and recreate a city subdivision during the past few months and make it into a working model the students dubbed "B ox-Flats".

The City of Medicine Hat Planning, Building and Developm ent department, together with the Grade 5 and 6 students from Elm Street Elementary School, have been working together since October 2007 to learn about the city' s Flats area while incorporating a planning concept called a "box-city".

"A box-city allows students to study a community and explore opportunities, strengths and weakness in that community and develop sugges tions for redevelopment and growth," says Jeanie Gartly, Superintendent of Planning and the proj ect manager for the North Flats Area Redevelopment Plan. "The 'Box-Flats' uses this concept as a hands-on experimental approach to community planning and design principles in the Flats area of the city".

The ideas generated were used to create five land use options for the North Flats community. Students selected one land use option and map and constructed various building types from boxes which were put on the map. The North Flats is currently undergoing an Area Redevelopment Plan and the suggestions of the students w ill be incorporated into the redevelopment project.

"The concept instills understanding of the development of communities and their present problems and successes", says Gartly.

The public is invited to attend the presentation of the map and the buildings at Ci ty Hall on Monday, May 26, 2008 at 9:45 a.m. during which time students will be taken on a tour of C ity Hall.

The North Flats Area Redevelopment Plan is ongoing and is anticipated to go before C ouncil in 2008.

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